

The Sun

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Why.

To satisfy fears lest no cause exist for hostility to Spain that can stand as valid to foreign eyes, it may be said that we are preparing to deal with the Cuban situation in order to reestablish within the borders of this hemisphere the domestic peace that is indispensable to our repose and prosperity, and that behind this purpose looms the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor.

Our reasons for undertaking the task in the manner contemplated are these:

If between the people of any American island or country and their transatlantic rulers were generally indifferent or impartial, we might choose the simpler way of suppressing Cuban disorder by lending aid to the established Government there, that of Spain. But we are not indifferent, or impartial. We have an instinctive and traditional leaning to the cause of the struggling Cubans. While, as a people inspired by the rational doctrine of JAMES MONROE, we have never entertained a policy involving the expulsion of foreign Governments from this hemisphere, yet we welcome all circumstances which look to such a change. We should see with delight Cuba deliver herself from Spanish domination.

This attitude of greater sympathy toward all our neighbors, as against more distant peoples, and the guardianship of our domestic interests must go hand in hand, and therefore, Spain being unable to reestablish the peace in Cuba which is desirable, we are constrained to tell Spain to go, if need be, at the muzzle of our guns.

In our opinion, the first step in this process should be the recognition of the Cuban Government. Wandering and vague as that is, a popular movement which to-day defies the utmost resources of the Spanish kingdom, after having carried on three years of warfare heroically, incorruptibly, and irrepressibly, under continuous and undisturbed leadership, is fit for the recognition of a friend. If some hesitate to recognize it because of the refusal of European Governments to recognize it, the answer is that, in such business, the initiative is in this part of the world, is with the United States.

This policy is the one with which those who have been the keenest friends of Cuba are identified, and we believe that it is approved by the majority of Congress. But, with the Executive holding another view, and the Constitutional apportionment of the power to recognize the Executive and Congress being undetermined, however the weight of authority may favor Congress, the advocates of recognition bear the responsibility of deciding whether the attempt to proceed along those particular lines does not threaten the entire movement with danger. The case against Spain being clear, all roads of action on the part of the United States lead to Cuba's freedom.

Naval Bases in War.

Among the expressions of opinion that have been drawn out by the discussion going on in England on the subject of naval bases in war, one of the most interesting is that given by the British Admiral, R. VESKY HAMILTON, in a letter to the London Times. He divides bases in naval war into primary and secondary. As examples he instances the blockade and observation of Toulon from 1803 to 1805 by NELSON and of the Spanish coast by Lord St. VINCENT; also the blockade of Brest on the French Atlantic coast. The primary base of the British squadrons then was England. The secondary bases were the squadrons from which the squadrons derived all their supplies, frequently taken in at sea. Occasionally some convenient port was used, but the main reliance of the British squadrons was on the supply ships. This form of secondary base was, however, only possible because the enemy's ships had been driven from the seas, and locked up in ports susceptible of being effectually blockaded. Fixed secondary bases were not needed.

In the China seas, until the seizure of Kiao Chou by the Germans and the occupation of Port Arthur by the Russians, together with the development of Japan's naval power, Hong Kong was a sufficient primary base for the British naval forces. The squadron, numerically strong, and kept in a high state of efficiency, could always rely upon the mercantile steam marine in the China trade, from which vessels could be taken and fitted up as armed cruisers, to keep the communications of the fleet with Hong Kong open and form the secondary base of supply for the fleet itself. The fleet was concentrated and in close touch with the enemy. But the conditions are all changed now. The possible enemy or enemies have bases of their own, and so situated that, in the event of a combination against England, she must either largely augment her cruising squadron to keep open her maritime communications, or secure more fixed bases. The demand for the cessation of Wei Hai Wei was thus indicated. Some other points as auxiliary to Wei Hai Wei in the north and to Hong Kong in the south, will, it is said, be selected and occupied when the necessity arises.

In the Egyptian campaign of 1882 the British fleet, after destroying the Egyptian coast defense at Alexandria in the north, served as the base of the military operations that were subsequently conducted from the Suez Canal on the east against Cairo. The campaign now being carried on up the Nile is only possible because of the projection of British naval power up the river aided by the railway. In the case both of the campaign of 1882 and the present one, the primary base was and is England. Gibraltar and Malta are the fortified stations on the line of communication.

In our own war against England, from 1812 to 1814, the British fleet, on which 8,000 troops were embarked, formed the base of military operations, and during the summer of 1813 it blockaded and harried our coast line. There was no fixed secondary base. Now England has on this conti-

nent two naval bases that may be described as of the first importance, Halifax and Esquimaux, to which squadrons can resort for repair and refit. In addition to Halifax, on the Atlantic coast Bermuda, Jamaica and St. Lucia are designed to serve as secondary bases for coal and supplies; England remaining as always the original base. Owing to her possession on the Pacific being limited to the British Columbia coast line, she has but one naval base on that side of the continent, and it is so situated that in the event of a war between this country and England, it could be isolated at the outset by the military occupation of any intermediate point in Canada between Montreal and Vancouver by an American army. It is to be noted that no other European country, possessing territory on the American continent, has fixed naval bases of any kind in proximity to her shores that could serve to shelter or supply a fleet of war.

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Is Church Membership a Mere Question of Taste?

The Rev. Dr. SHIELDS, professor in Princeton University, has been confirmed as an Episcopalian by Bishop POTTER after having been a Presbyterian from his youth, and he is now in his seventy-fourth year. He was not merely a Presbyterian, but also a Presbyterian minister, who had given formal allegiance to the Westminster Confession of Faith, with its distinctive Calvinism.

Why, then, has Dr. SHIELDS left the Church of his fathers, into whose ministry he was ordained so long ago as fifty years ago? This is his answer, in his own words: "I left the Presbyterian Church on personal grounds in order to protect myself from detraction, as well as to protest against a fanatical form of false temperance which seems now to be terrorizing that communion." That is, he left because he had rendered himself liable to Presbyterian discipline by offending against a rule of its General Assembly requiring ministers to abstain from assisting the liquor traffic. Dr. SHIELDS had signed the application for a license to the Princeton Inn to sell liquors, and accordingly he was called for trial before the New Brunswick Presbytery, to which he belonged.

As to the propriety of such a regulation of the conduct of Presbyterian ministers and of Dr. SHIELDS's views as to the matter, we have nothing to say. He has a right to think as he pleases on that subject; but the pertinent question now is whether a minister who has pledged himself solemnly to be a teacher and defender of a certain Church can consistently turn away from it on "personal grounds" only, without having undergone any change in his conviction as to its tenets. Dr. SHIELDS makes no pretense that he left the Presbyterian Church and went over to the Episcopal Church for any other reason than his personal convenience.

He moves out of one ecclesiastical home and into another as a man might change his house, or simply to gratify his tastes. He likes better the surroundings of his new situation, but he does not move because of any change in his belief. Virtually he was as much of an Episcopalian before he was confirmed by Bishop POTTER as he is now, and he is now no less of a Presbyterian so far as his faith goes than when he remained in its Church organization. He left simply to "protest against a fanatical form of false temperance," not because he was impelled by any religious conviction.

That is, Dr. SHIELDS practically tells all Presbyterians that there is nothing of any essential doctrinal consequence, no vital variation in faith, to prevent their going over to the Episcopal Church. If it happens to suit better their personal comfort and convenience. If they prefer the liturgy or the society of the Episcopal Church, he makes that justification enough. If they chafe under the more ascetic regulations of their present communions and want greater freedom for the gratification of their inclinations, they will only follow the example of this venerable Presbyterian if they move over to the Episcopal Church.

Will recruits thus obtained add real strength to the Episcopal Church? With what feelings will accessions to its ministry or "priesthood" be received by the great party in that Church which rejects Protestantism as unscriptural and altogether without divine authority, if the newcomers are men who declare with Dr. SHIELDS that "the historic Churches of the Reformation, such as the Lutheran, the Reformed, and the Protestant Episcopal, are generally more or less normal portions of the Catholic and Apostolic Church"? This view of the Church conflicts radically with the Anglo-Catholic doctrine that the Episcopal Church is no part of Protestantism, and that "the historic Churches of the Reformation" are no Churches at all, but mere schismatical sects, standing wholly outside of Catholicism, and in wicked rebellion against it.

Moreover, if a Protestant's Church relationship can be determined properly by considerations of his mere personal comfort and convenience, without regard to any question of belief, what respectable justification is there for divisions of Protestantism? If they rest on no vital principle, but express bare differences of taste, are they any more than voluntary clubs? If there is no reason except passing fancy why a Presbyterian should not be an Episcopalian, is there any more religious obligation upon the Episcopalian to prevent his going over to a Presbyterian church, for instance, he prefers the upholstery of his pew, the looks of its pastor, or the character of its music?

In other words, is not the explanation by Dr. BRUCE and Dr. SHIELDS of their mo-

tives in going over to the Episcopal Church simply another indication of the decay of religious conviction? They have changed their ecclesiastical relations, not because of any change in their religious belief, but simply to get more comfortable. It is as if a Republican should go over to the Democratic party for no other reason than that his personal friends were Democrats and some people objectionable to him were Republicans. Such a man might be an amiable enough person, but he would hardly be accredited with political conviction.

The Army to the Front.

The orders to move the army have come at last, and they cannot be called premature, since it was obvious weeks ago that any land operations in Cuba which proposed to precede the rainy season could not longer be delayed. It should be said, however, that for the coast operations at or near Havana, which Gen. MILLS contemplates, based on the effective clearing of a landing place by our fleet, cooperating with the forces of Gen. GOMEZ, the obstacles presented by the rainy season will be less than for operations in the interior.

The distribution of forces suggests a crossing of the Gulf from several points. At New Orleans, eight regiments of infantry are to be massed; at Mobile, seven; at Tampa, seven; and at Key West and Dry Tortugas, one. This accounts for all the infantry except Col. ANDERSON's regiment, which is far off in Alaska, and needed there, and Col. MOAL'S, stationed in New Mexico and Arizona. Six out of the ten cavalry regiments and all the ten light batteries of the original five artillery regiments go to Chickamauga, whence a run by rail of about 400 miles would place them in Pensacola, or of about twice that distance in Tampa. While Gen. MILLS will undoubtedly in person command the offensive operations, Gen. MENNITT and Gen. GNAHAM will aid in their respective departments of the East and the Gulf, and four out of five of the remaining highest officers are already under orders, Major-Gen. BROOKS to command the forces at Chickamauga, and Brig.-Gens. COFFINGER, SHAFER, and WADE those respectively at Tampa, New Orleans, and Mobile. All, of course, are to be supplied with the regular warlike vast armies and operations. The final organizations and movements may see some changes in command.

The confidence with which so large a portion of the regular army is moved away from its customary garrisons is striking, but well founded. The Indian problem in this country is virtually solved, and for a long time not the slightest outbreak has occurred among the red men. It will be observed, however, that, besides the Fourteenth Infantry, necessarily left in Alaska, the Fifteenth remains on the southwestern frontier to guard against possible Apache troubles; and also left behind, at least for the present, are four cavalry regiments: the Fourth in California, Washington, and Idaho, the Fifth in Texas, the Seventh in Arizona, and the Eighth in the Dakotas. Thus both the northern and southern land frontiers have guardians, while the seven artillery regiments scattered along the seaboard are available for any duty.

The mobilization certainly looks well ordered in its first step. Movements on Cuba from several points, timed for conjunction, simplify difficulties of transports and supplies. But doubtless this is only the beginning of the force that will be called into action. Volunteers will unquestionably be asked for, and it may be hoped that the regular army will also be so increased as to allow the rapid concentration of greater numbers at its various rendezvous on the Gulf coast. The army has been getting ready during the last six weeks, and only waits orders to move anywhere and to take the field at once.

Days of Enrollment.

The enrollment of citizens under "primary election reform," by the agency of blanks and the participation of a notary public, began in this town on Saturday and will continue until April 30. It is already announced by some friends of primary reform that they deem it a deplorable circumstance that the time fixed by law for this enrollment begins at a period when the attention of all intelligent citizens is profoundly engrossed in the consideration of matters of national importance. This explanation seems to be made because of fear that there will be a light enrollment, though no such distraction need operate to discourage the enthusiastic enroller, for his notarial fees are paid in advance by others, and he can get a free blank by applying either in person or by letter or postal card at 300 Mulberry street (Manhattan), 19 Smith street (Brooklyn), the Village Hall, Stapleton; the Police Station, Astoria, or the Solingen Building on Motte avenue in the Bronx borough.

There are some citizens in this community who are extremely partial to "enrollments" either before notaries or commissioners of deeds, they do not care which, and there their political activity ends. To the performance of the obligations of citizenship they contribute little else than enrollment.

The new primary law is applicable to men of all parties, though it was more especially designed to gain the approval of the men of no party at all. It will be curious to see, after several months' enrollments, or "priesthood" be received by the great party in that Church which rejects Protestantism as unscriptural and altogether without divine authority, if the newcomers are men who declare with Dr. SHIELDS that "the historic Churches of the Reformation, such as the Lutheran, the Reformed, and the Protestant Episcopal, are generally more or less normal portions of the Catholic and Apostolic Church"? This view of the Church conflicts radically with the Anglo-Catholic doctrine that the Episcopal Church is no part of Protestantism, and that "the historic Churches of the Reformation" are no Churches at all, but mere schismatical sects, standing wholly outside of Catholicism, and in wicked rebellion against it.

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COLUMBIA'S COMMEMORATION.

The Exercises This Year to Be the Most Splendid Since the University's History.

The commencement at Columbia this year will be the most elaborate ever held by the university. John H. Pies, the clerk of the Board of Trustees, is authority for this statement. He is Chairman of the Alumni Committee appointed to arrange the programme. The celebrations will last from June 8 to June 8. They will all take place on the new site at Morningside Heights. They will embrace the preaching of a baccalaureate sermon in the large lecture hall of the new hall on Sunday at 4 o'clock; the class day exercises of 1900 of both Columbia and Barnard colleges, on Monday at 3 o'clock; a big reception to all the graduating classes, given by President and Mrs. Low, on Tuesday at 4 o'clock in the library building, and the commencement proper on Wednesday at 11 o'clock in the gymnasium.

This is the general outline of the plan. One of the largest social festivities ever arranged by Columbia will be the dance to be given by the seniors of Barnard and Columbia in the gymnasium on class day. The floor of the extension of the new hall on Sunday at 4 o'clock will be just as large as that of the amphitheatre in Madison Square Garden. It opens directly on the grove of old shade trees in the middle of the campus, and affords the greatest opportunity for a typical college class day. The exercises will take place in the new hall on Sunday at 4 o'clock. The commencement proper on Wednesday at 11 o'clock in the gymnasium.

In the afternoon there will be a general assembly of the alumni in the new hall on Sunday at 4 o'clock. From 1 to 2 o'clock there will be a trustees' lunch served in the President's dining hall. From 2 to 3 o'clock there will be meetings of the various alumni associations and class reunions. At 3 o'clock all the alumni will assemble for the dedication of the two memorial gates to the new hall on Sunday at 4 o'clock. The gates will be dedicated by the President of the University, Mr. Pies, and the class of '92 gate at 12 o'clock. The gates will be dedicated by the President of the University, Mr. Pies, and the class of '92 gate at 12 o'clock.

The saying does not speak the truth. John BAILEY was born prominent. He can't help being prominent, much as he would like to. "It is oratory on the decline" asks the Providence Journal. Why should it be on the decline? The love of passionate excitement and the pomp of words, the delight in being roused, overcome, and persuaded irresistibly, and in rousing, overcoming, and persuading have not been weakened by the invention of printing. The voice has accents and music, and it is to be in the island of Barbadoes, in the British West Indies, when the Confederate cruiser Florida, commanded by Capt. Maffitt, ran into Bridgetown harbor to coal and to collect information as to the movements of American war and merchant vessels. She came straight from the North after having captured the Chinese tea ship the Jacob Bell, somewhere off this coast.

Persecution was given her to take in what coal she required to carry her to the nearest port in her own country. The result was that, although well provided with coal, she was in only a few days before, she filled up every available space with the supply within twenty-four hours allowed her by the neutrality laws, and slipped away to sea just in time to avoid meeting the British ship the Jacob Bell, which was following close on her heels.

In the last war between the French and China, rice was declared contraband of war by the United States. It happened to be in the island of Barbadoes, in the British West Indies, when the Confederate cruiser Florida, commanded by Capt. Maffitt, ran into Bridgetown harbor to coal and to collect information as to the movements of American war and merchant vessels. She came straight from the North after having captured the Chinese tea ship the Jacob Bell, somewhere off this coast.

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THE LEE AND J. BRYAN.

Two-Silver Leaders Think They Have Spelled the Contest-General's Doom.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—The echoes of the dinner given by the Democrats last Wednesday night in honor of the 150th birthday of Thomas Jefferson are still heard in Washington. The presence at the dinner of William J. Bryan and Richard Croker, and the fact that Consul-General Lee was in town that night, have caused more or less political discussion among the Democrats.

The dinner was a success in every respect from a Democratic standpoint, but out of it has grown more or less diversity of opinion. Mr. Croker was in Europe during the memorable campaign of 1896, when Bryan was the candidate of the Democratic party for President, and Consul-General Lee was a pronounced Gold Democrat, giving his support to the ticket of Mr. McKinley and Mr. Sherman. The Democrats have been greatly pleased by Consul-General Lee's conduct in Havana, and they have gone so far as to say that he would make a first-rate candidate for the Democrats to take up for President in the national campaign of 1900. Mr. Bryan's friends, it has been made known, have heard this talk concerning Gen. Lee, and they are not at all pleased by it. They are contemptuous of a political standpoint they do not care anything about Gen. Lee's attitude in Havana. They only refer to his attitude during the Presidential campaign of 1896. They point out that Gen. Lee in that campaign was a bold Democrat, and that he deserted the national Democratic party which formulated the Chicago platform of 1896 for free silver at 16 to 1, the gold standard, and the Democratic States, and an income tax, and the Democrats in the Senate and House of Representatives drove Gen. Lee's attitude during the Presidential campaign of 1896. They only refer to his attitude during the Presidential campaign of 1896.

The comments about this matter were called out by a dinner given by the Democrats at the gathering spots of Washington many Lee buttons were worn in the coats of his admirers. The dinner was given by the Democrats at the gathering spots of Washington many Lee buttons were worn in the coats of his admirers. The dinner was given by the Democrats at the gathering spots of Washington many Lee buttons were worn in the coats of his admirers.

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FATHER KOLOSINSKI'S DEATH.

Pushing Away a Curious Figure in the Polish Colony at Detroit.

April 10 is a national holiday among the Poles. It is the anniversary (the sixty-seventh) of the death of Father Kolosinski, who in the last Polish revolution began at the age of 19 to fight for the independence of his native Poland. In November, 1830, the Polish patriots were successful, defeating the Russian army. The battle of Siedlitz has been celebrated by ex-patriated Poles throughout the world since as the last triumph of Polish arms. One city of the United States in which usually there is a celebration of the event is Detroit, but it was omitted this year, as the anniversary marked the demise, in the Polish colony there, of its most conspicuous figure, Dominik Kolosinski, more generally known as the King of the Poles. He was the pastor of the chief Polish Catholic church and the last conspicuous representative of the "warring Polish element" in the priesthood in the United States.

The death of the King of the Poles was pathetic in at least one of the circumstances attending it. Prior to the year 1898 Father Kolosinski was pastor of the Church of St. Albin in Detroit, and while there he became involved in a controversy with the Bishop of the diocese. In the difficulties which ensued, the power of the Bishop was shown to be paramount, the pastor was put under the ban of the Church, his control of the parish was wrested from him, and he left Detroit to find a home temporarily in North Dakota. Through the intervention of Mr. Sackville, the King of the Poles returned to Detroit, was intrusted with the parish, and he became pastor of the church, which he was pastor at the time of his death, and the original causes of friction were done away with. The Bishop of the diocese, however, of the Detroit papers, the News, gives of the last hours of Father Kolosinski's life.

"It is a sad story," called out in conversation Dr. Schulte, and this time the father's parishioners, alarmed about his condition, had become impatient over the refusal of the doctor to restore to them their beloved priest. They invaded the sick room, threatened the doctor with threats and murmurs of disapproval. They would not let the physician attend to the priest, but they would let him be attended by the priest. The doctor was so completely violent in his denunciation.

We have decided not to give Dr. Kolosinski any more medicine, and he has been so long in bed, and the crowd supported him. In vain did the physician plead and argue. The crowd refused to be moved. The doctor was so completely violent in his denunciation.

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